

HAROLD WEISBER
ROUTE 7, FREDERICK, MD.

JAN. 2, 1969

Dear Harold:

The L.A. TIMES article on the Cubans involved with the CIA and using explosives from that agency to bomb travel agencies in Los Angeles has some interesting developments. The Times printed testimony given by two FBI agents which disclosed the above information. You'll notice in the article that testimony quoted from the FBI agents is about ~~the~~ one of the accused suspects, Hector Cornillot. Garcia-Cardenas, the other suspect,--according to the Times he "was extradited from Miami last week and is awaiting trial here (L.A.)." That is the only mention of Cardenas.

I went to the County Clerk's office Tues, Dec 31, to look at the Grand Jury indictment of both men. The clerk showed me the register, the two defendants and the crime that they were being tried for. He told me that he could not release the indictment to me, since it was secret testimony given to the Grand Jury and since more importantly that neither man had been arraigned, and under the law an arraignment is necessary before information on an indictment can be made public. He also told me that the Defense atty. might want to suppress certain information in the indictment which is public now but would later be classified.

I asked the clerk how the L.A. Times got hold of the story, especially since neither man had been arraigned? He told me, "I can tell you this, that information didn't come out of this office." He then told me how the Mel Pierson case, ~~xxx~~ how certain parts of the indictment were made public in the Times when it was still "secret". (Pierson is a former Park Commissioner who was indicted on bribery last month). (Mayor Yorty said that D.A. Eville Younger's office released the info to the Times, since Younger is a good friend of the publisher, Otis Chandler, and because the Times hates Yorty and wants to show ~~xxxxx~~ discredit the Yorty record.)

I called Ron Einstoss at the L.A. Times and asked him how the Times got this information about Mr. Cornillot. He told me, "...probably from the County Clerk's office"... I questioned him further, "Do you mean sir that you aren't sure... I thought you wrote the story?"

Einstoss told me or at least implied that someone else did the research and all he did was put bits of information together into a story. I asked Einstoss how he got a copy of the Grand Jury indictment when neither of the men have been arraigned? He said, "I've got my own battles to worry about... I can't be concerned with the public also." Einstoss also told me that Mr. ~~Cornillot~~ had been arraigned last week.

Cardenas

I called the County Clerk's office today to get a verification on a few of these discrepancies. I was told that the register listed two defendants: Mr. Cardenas and "Secret"; the clerk told me that the name Cornillot was not listed. Secret, he told me, means defendant: never found; never revealed himself; or case dismissed. He said he doubted the case was dismissed, but would not speculate or verify the real reason since it was secret. I was also told that neither man had been arraigned or at least their information did not indicate it.

I then talked to the supervisor of the Clerk's office who told me he could not even give me the case number. The supervisor said that some things might be published in the newspaper which shouldn't be, you know it and I know it but I can't tell you anything until the information is public.

Dec. 31, '68

A UPI report titled: FBI MEN TESTIFY
CIA explosives used
in 5 L.A. bombings

said: "The secret testimony of two FBI agents, Bernardo M. Perez and Richard Castillo, was given to the County Grand Jury last month and was made public Monday."

A clerk in the County Clerk's office told me Tuesday morning that no part of the indictment was public yet since neither man was arraigned.

I remembered that the clerk was holding a new few hundred page government type pamphlet which I thought might be the indictment. The clerk seemed willing to give me the pamphlet when he said... "I'm sorry, it's secret... I can't give you the indictment... it's not public yet... why don't you stop by next week... as soon as the men are arraigned we'll give you the information..."

Sincerely yours,

David Zitch
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